

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A document editing system for editing a document in a computer, comprising:

~~document area management~~ means for discriminating a specified plurality of document areas ~~specified~~ within an arbitrary area of the document and managing the specified plurality of document areas along with attributes assigned thereto;

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~~tag management~~ means for managing generation and deletion of a tag pair including a start tag and an end tag, ~~which uniquely correspond to each other and specify a document area and a unique identifier which is attached to each start and end tag, wherein said unique identifier is different from a unique identifier attached to each other tag pair;~~ and

~~document editing~~ means for editing a character sequence provided in the document while information about the specified plurality of document ~~area~~ areas within the document is retained or updated.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The document editing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said specified plurality of document areas comprise a plurality of types of document areas.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The document editing system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

~~link management~~ means for ~~performing management operation so as to relate~~ linking ~~one or a plurality of documents~~ at least one linked document to the specified plurality of

document ~~area~~ areas and passing information about the link to said ~~document-area~~  
~~management~~ means for discriminating and managing; and

~~linked document output~~ first means for outputting the at least one linked document  
linked by said ~~link management~~ means for linking at least one linked document, by reference  
to information about the specified plurality of document ~~area~~ areas ~~managed by said~~  
~~document-area management means~~.

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Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The document editing system as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said specified plurality of document areas comprise a plurality of document areas  
specified within the entirety of the document or arbitrary portions thereof[[:;]], and wherein  
said document editing system further comprises:

~~display-format management~~ means for managing an arbitrary display format assigned  
to the specified plurality of document ~~area~~ areas ~~managed by said document management~~  
~~means~~; and

~~document output~~ second means for outputting the document ~~managed by said~~  
~~document-area management means~~; in an the arbitrary expression format ~~provided in said~~  
~~display-format management means~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The document editing system as claimed in claim 1,  
further comprising:

~~processing interface management~~ means for ~~performing a management operation so~~  
~~as to relate~~ linking an arbitrary process to the specified plurality of document ~~area such that~~  
areas, wherein a trigger ~~for executing~~ to execute the arbitrary process is set for the specified  
plurality of document areas, ~~as well as to pass~~ and information about the link to the arbitrary

process is passed to said document area management means for discriminating and managing;  
and

~~a processing library means for storing, such as a library, the link to the arbitrary~~  
~~processes linked to the specified document area by said processing interface management~~  
~~means process.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method of preparing a tag information management table for editing a document, said method comprising the steps of:

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determining whether or not an arbitrary character string within a the document is selected;

~~if it is determined in said determining step that the character string is selected,~~  
acquiring tag information about the pieces, including a kind of tags tag pair assigned to a document area and ~~information about the~~ a position of a start tag and that a position of an end tag, if it is determined in said determining that the arbitrary character string is selected;

assigning a nonoverlapping unique tag IDs ID to the ~~respective~~ tag information pieces acquired in said acquiring step; and

storing ~~into a tag information management table for use in editing a document,~~ a link between the nonoverlapping unique tag IDs ID assigned to the tags in said assigning step and the tag information pieces ~~acquired in said acquiring step~~ in the tag information management table.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A document editing system for editing a document in a computer, comprising:

a tag management module including a tag setting module which sets a tag pair with a unique identifier, said tag pair including a start tag with the unique identifier attached and

located at a start portion of an arbitrary area in the document and an end tag with the unique identifier attached and located at ~~a start portion and~~ an end portion of ~~an~~ the arbitrary area in a the document, ~~respectively~~ and said tag setting module storing information on said start tag and said end tag ~~for setting~~; and

a document management module which manages said start tag with the unique identifier attached and said end tag with the unique identifier attached when preparing or editing a character sequence in the document and which manages the entire document.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method of editing a document in a computer, comprising the steps of:

storing information on a start tag and an end tag ~~for setting~~ , wherein a unique identifier is attached to the start tag and the unique identifier is attached to the end tag;

setting said start tag and said end tag at a start portion and an end portion, respectively, of an arbitrary area in a the document according to the information stored in said storing ~~step~~; and

managing said start tag with the attached unique identifier and said end tag with the attached unique identifier when preparing or editing a character sequence in the document and managing the entire document.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A medium for storing a document which is readable by a computer, said medium comprising:

a first portion for storing a plurality of first document information formed by a character string, second document attribute information for specifying an arbitrary portion of the first document information, and link information set at a portion of first document information and related to a portion of second document attribute information; and

a second portion for managing the link information and the second document attribute information.

Claim 10 (New): A document editing system for editing a document in a computer, comprising:

a document area manager configured to discriminate a specified plurality of document areas within an arbitrary area of the document and configured to manage the specified plurality of document areas along with attributes assigned thereto;

A<sup>3</sup> a tag manager configured to manage generation and deletion of a tag pair, including a start tag and an end tag, and a unique identifier which is attached to each start and end tag, wherein said unique identifier is different from a unique identifier attached to each other tag pair; and

a document editor configured to edit a character sequence provided in the document while information about the specified plurality of document areas within the document is retained or updated.

Claim 11 (New): The document editing system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said specified plurality of document areas comprise a plurality of types of document areas.

Claim 12 (New): The document editing system as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

a link manager configured to link at least one linked document to the specified plurality of document areas and to pass information about the link to said document area manager; and

a linked document output section configured to output the at least one linked document linked by said link manager, by reference to information about the specified plurality of document areas managed by said document area manager.

Claim 13 (New): The document editing system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said specified plurality of document areas comprise a plurality of document areas specified within the entirety of the document or arbitrary portions thereof, and wherein said document editing system further comprises:

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a display format manager configured to manage an arbitrary display format assigned to the specified plurality of document areas; and

a second document output section configured to output the document in the arbitrary expression format.

Claim 14 (New): The document editing system as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

a processing interface manager configured to link an arbitrary process to the specified plurality of document areas, wherein a trigger to execute the arbitrary process is set for the specified plurality of document areas, and information about the link to the arbitrary process is passed to said document area manager; and

a processing library configured to store the link to the arbitrary process.